

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 051562

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 051562 SENT ACTION OTTAWA DATED
7 MARCH 1975:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 051562

E.O. 11652: GDS.

TAGS: EFIN, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING

REF: A. OTTAWA 809 B. STATE 051193

1. REF A REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS REGARDING EFFECT OF
LIFTING CHILEAN "STATE OF SIEGE" ON PARIS CLUB MEMBERS
ATTITUDES RE: DEBT RESCHEDULING. "STATE OF SIEGE" IS CON-
STITUTIONAL PROVISION, FREQUENTLY INVOKED IN LATIN AMERICA,
WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND PERMITS ARREST
WITHOUT WARRANT AND INDEFINITE IMPRISONMENT. IN ADDITION
TO CHILE, PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA AND PERU ARE CURRENTLY UNDER
STATES OF SIEGE. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT CHILE OR ANY LA
GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE UP ITS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO INVOKE
EMERGENCY POWERS GIVEN THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE THREATS
TO INTERNAL SECURITY.

2. A LIFTING OF THE CHILE'S STATE OF SIEGE PER SE IS NOT
REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES WHICH WE SHARE
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WITH OTHER CONCERNED NATIONS. CHILE COULD CONTINUE STATE

OF SIEGE AT A LOWER GRADE AND STILL INSTITUTE CIVIL REVIEW
OF MILITARY SENTENCES, HONOR HABEAS CORPUS, RELEASE PRISON-
ERS, CLOSE DETENTION CENTERS, ETC. MOREOVER, FOR REASONS
EXPRESSED REF B, DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS INTRODUCTION OF
POLITICAL CRITERIA INTO CREDITOR CLUB FORMAT A DANGEROUS

PRECEDENT FOR BOTH CREDITOR AND DEBTOR NATIONS.

3. FYI: ALTHOUGH DISCUSSED AT LAST PARIS CLUB MEETING,
REFERENCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WAS EXCLUDED FROM
MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT. END FYI. INGERSOLL UNQTE INGERSOLL

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